

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-22 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1-22 were rejected. With this Amendment, claims 1, 11, 20 and 22 were amended. Accordingly, claims 1-22 remain at issue in the above-identified application.

**35 U.S.C. § 103 Obviousness Rejection of Claims**

Claims 1-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Musgrave et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,505,193) in view of *Khidekel et al.* (U.S. Publication No. 2001/0027527). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

As amended, independent claims 1, 11, 20 and 22 each recite "generating a verification certificate based on an identifier of said requesting person when person authentication is established" and "updating information indicating a history of issuing verification certificates." Applicants submit that neither *Musgrave* nor *Khidekel* teach or even suggest generating a verification certificate based on an identifier of said requesting person when person authentication is established, nor updating information indicating a history of issuing verification certificates. Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent claims 1, 11, 20 and 22, as well as dependent claims 2-10, 12-19, and 21, are allowable.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is requested.

Response to October 27, 2005 Final Office Action

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Respectfully submitted,

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